SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

VESTRY

TO THE CONGREGATION

OF THE

Church of St. Matthias.

For the Year ending January 31st, 1859.

SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

VESTRY

TO THE CONGREGATION

OF THE

Church of St. Matthias.

For the Year ending January 31st, 1859.

PHILADELPHIA:
JACKSON, PRINTER.
1859.

Report.

At the close of the second year since the organization of the Church of St. Matthias, the Vestry present to the Congregation a statement of the affairs of the Church, as conducted during the past year. It will be seen, by the Report of the Accounting Warden annexed hereto, that our Church has been able to fulfil all her financial obligations. The Rector's salary has always been paid monthly in advance, and other liabilities promptly met as they became due, so that at the present time the Parrish is entirely free from debt.

Much has however occurred within the year, which the Vestry, in common with the other members of the Congregation, deeply regret—many bright anticipations have failed to be realized :—the Congregation, which so suddenly swelled into large numbers, is divided or dispersed :—It remains only for us to give a short history of the past, so that some of the dangers which we have encountered, or the errors into which we may have fallen, can in future be avoided.

By reference to the Report for the last year, it will be seen that the Vestry announced to the Congregation, that the Pulpit of this Church would shortly be filled by a clergyman, who they deemed in every way worthy of their choice. Having heard favorable accounts of the Rev. Richard A. Carden, then of Quebec, L. C., an invitation was sent him to visit us, which he accepted, and arrived in this city about the middle of January, 1858. He performed religious services in our Chapel, as also in several Churches in the city—was introduced to a large number of our people, and was received by all with the kindest welcome. This visit resulted in a unanimous call extended him, to become the Rector of the Church of St. Matthias,

at a salary of $1000 per annum, with the rent of such dwelling house as he might select, to be paid by the Vestry. This call he immediately accepted, with the repeated statement that he considered it "providential." Having selected for his residence the house No. 2309 Green street, he shortly afterwards left the city, to make arrangements for the removal of his family hither.

During his absence, some members of the Congregation, desirous of proving to him the favorable impression he had made, and the esteem in which he was held by all, commenced a subscription for the purpose of furnishing his house, and although the Congregation were then few in numbers, yet was the desire so great to make the new Rector and his family comfortable, upon their arrival among us, that they were enabled to furnish the house in a plain, but neat and substantial manner throughout. For this mark of kindness, altogether unexpected, Mr. Carden repeatedly expressed his gratitude.

Shortly after the arrival of Mr. Carden, it was found that his performance of religious services were acceptable to many, and the Congregation increased so rapidly, that the capacity of our Chapel was not sufficient. Many plans were suggested for larger accommodations, and finally, at the earnest desire of Mr. Carden, the Lecture Room of the Spring Garden Institute was engaged for two years, on Sundays, at an annual rent of five hundred dollars; and here, although the number of seats rented was not greatly increased, yet the number of persons who congregated there to attend the services, often filled the Hall to its utmost capacity. So far the Rector and the Vestry had proceeded with the greatest harmony,—but soon, it began to be apparent that the former was somewhat dissatisfied, and appeals to members of the Vestry to commence the erection of the Church were frequent, coupled with statements that he would "not forever preach in a Hall," and deeming his salary to be insufficient—he wanted a large increase for the succeeding year. Much dissatisfaction also prevailed throughout the Congregation in consequence of the Rector absenting himself so frequently from his own pulpit, and his neglect of parochial visitations. On the 16th of last July, he stated to several members of the Vestry, that he had a call to the Church of the Covenant, at a salary of

$3,000 per annum, with an advance of $1,000 for present use, which he would accept, unless the Vestry acceded to his demands. The statement as to the call to the Church of the Covenant, he also made about the same time to a clergyman of high standing in this city, (saying he had then the call in his pocket,) whom he consulted as to his duty to decline or accept it.

About this time, also, although the Vestry had been led to believe that Mr. Carden had left his former residence clear of all pecuniary obligations—and we knew that he had incurred no travelling or other expenses during his visit to us—he intimated to some of our members that there were claims upon him in Quebec, about which he was very anxious, and that it would require for his relief the sum of $800, which he wished to have advanced to him on his salary for the following year:—but it being manifest, that if this was done, he could not live on the balance of his salary during the remainder of that time, it was stated to him that if he would discard all intention or idea of accepting any call to any other Church, this sum might be raised *by subscription* for him. He gladly accepted the suggestion, and said that if the gentleman to whom he was then speaking (Mr. Hagner) would *endeavor to get up such a svbscription*, he would refuse all calls to any other Churches, and remain at his present post. This conversation occurred on Sunday evening, July 18th, previous to the service, and during the same evening he voluntarily stated to the Congregation, in substance: That it was currently reported that overtures had been made to him to leave the Parish of St. Matthias, and he wished to say before dismissing the Congregation, that he had come to this field of labor from a conviction that it was a path marked out by Divine Providence, and as long as he met with that sympathy and support from his Vestry and people, which he thought he was entitled to, he should feel it his duty and privilege to remain and labor at his present post.

This gentleman (Mr. Hagner) believing the matter settled, went to work to obtain *the subscriptions*, using as an argument that Mr. Carden had declined a call to the Church of the Covenant, at a much larger salary, and should not be allowed to suffer

pecuniarily from his determination to remain with us. "I was, however," says Mr. Hagner, in his letter to the Committee of the Vestry, mentioned hereafter, "utterly astonished in the midst of my exertions, at receiving from him a note, dated Cape May, July 19th, the very day after having made the statement to the Congregation referred to, by which it appeared he still held the idea of accepting another call, considered it an open question, and threatened, if his wishes were not complied with, he would feel bound to make some other arrangements. This threw me into an awkward and unpleasant position, and deprived me of the argument I was using to obtain subscriptions for him. Mr. Carden having, through you, removed the seal of confidence from this letter and my answer, and they both being in your possession, of course I am at liberty to refer to them. After receiving the letter referred to, I was in doubt whether I ought to proceed any further in the matter, but came to the conclusion, that if we furnished him with the money he desired, a feeling of gratitude, if nothing else, would settle him down. From dissatisfaction with his course, many refused to contribute to the purse. There was, however, presented to him five hundred dollars, and I loaned him two hundred and eighty dollars:"—thus paying him the price in money, which he demanded for a compliance with his original contract with the Vestry, and the fulfilment of his unconditional and voluntary assurance made to the Congregation.

The letter referred to above from Mr. Carden to Mr. Hagner, is as follows:—

"Cape May, *July 19th*, 1858.

"My dear sir and Brother,—

"This morning, before I left Philadelphia, I received a call from the Church of the Covenant, and after what I said to my people on Sunday evening, I did not feel at liberty to accept it. Their call will remain open till the first of September, and as you told me that you believed my Vestry would meet my wishes before the first of August, I therefore at once write to say, that upon the action of my Vestry must now depend my future action. I should be very sorry to leave my people, and have no desire to do so, but I expect that you will see that what I mentioned to you is

accomplished by the first of August. If such cannot be done, I will feel bound to make some other arrangements. I write this letter in *confidence* to you, and wish you to consider it *strictly private;* but I wish you to understand distinctly, that if what I asked is not done, I must accept some other call, and I know the Church of the Covenant will give me till September, to consider their offer. I will not leave my people if they do what I think they *can*, but if they do not, you must not blame *me*.

"Ever truly,

"Your friend and pastor,

"R. A. CARDEN."

Serious doubts having arisen in the minds of the members of the Vestry as to the fact of Mr. Carden having received a call to the Church of the Covenant, and it being so expressed to him, a letter was addressed on the 21st of October last, by the Rector, to the Vestry, and delivered in person, at a special meeting, in which he charged some members of the Vestry with unkind and ungentlemanly treatment towards himself, but without mentioning any names or particulars. At the request of the Rector, a committee of investigation was appointed, who waited upon him, and to whom he stated that the whole substance of the charges had reference to the expression of opinion by one member of the Vestry, that he (the Rector) had never received any call to the Church of the Covenant.—Mr. Carden stated to the Committee,—"I had a legal and distinct call to the Church of the Covenant. Mr. Rhoads called at my house on the day I went to Cape May, and produced a paper, saying, 'I have brought you a call to the Church of the Covenant;' but I stated, that I would not receive it, as you have come too late,—had you come on Friday, I might have considered your call. Mr. Rhoads then put the paper in his pocket, and, after some further conversation about another person for the Church of the Covenant, left, with the paper." Admitting, for a moment, that Mr. Carden stated correctly what occurred at this interview with Mr. Rhoads, it only proves that the latter came to the former with a paper, which the Rector having refused to receive, and never read, will hardly amount to the delivery on the one hand, and the reception on the other, of a call to any Church,—much less will it justify the Rector in saying, three days previ-

ously, that he was then in possession of such a call, which he would accept, unless his salary was increased by the Church of St. Matthias. The words above quoted, having been furnished by the Committee to Mr. Rhoads, with a request that he would state whether they agreed with his recollection of the interview alluded to, he answered as follows:—

"PHILADELPHIA, *Oct. 26th*, 1858.

"Mr. ISAAC C. PRICE,—

"My dear sir,—In answer to yours of this inst., I have to say, that I did not use the language quoted in the same; nor did I produce any call, nor tender one to Mr. Carden.

"My first words were: 'Mr. Carden, I understand that you stated to your Congregation last night, that you had determined to remain with them, and to refuse any calls to other Churches.' He replied that he had made such a statement. The rest of our conversation is as I have related it to Mr. Hagner,—except that I remember his referring to our want of a Rector, the disadvantages of not having a Church building, and how much better it would have been to have called a Rector soon after Mr. Tyng's death, when there was so much public sympathy.

"I think, if Mr. Carden would be reminded of this opening of our conversation, (which was very brief,) he will see how very unlikely it is, that I should offer him a call, after hearing him so decidedly confirm a statement of that kind.

"He was very much hurried, and seemed scarcely to listen to what I said: replying quickly to my inquiry, almost before I had finished it. This circumstance, together with the fact that he had been led to believe from other sources (as I have since heard) that a Committee would soon tender him a call, might have caused him to misconstrue the object of my visit, and to frame his impressions of it, at this day, in the words you handed me.

"Very truly yours,
JOHN P. RHOADS."

Copy of the letter to Mr. Hagner, referred to in the above.

"PHILA., *Oct.* 25, 1858.

"MR. CHAS. V. HAGNER,—Dear sir,—

"Yours of the 21st inst., requesting an account of my visit to Mr. Carden, on the morning of the 19th of July, is at hand, and I reply as follows:—

"A few days previous to that date, the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant (for the first time) considered the subject of calling Mr. Carden,

and a Committee was appointed to tender him a call,—it being understood that his relations to the Church of St. Matthias were not of a binding or obligatory nature.

"Before waiting upon him, the Committee heard it reported that Mr. Carden had stated to his Congregation the previous day, his determination to remain with them, and to refuse calls to other Churches. Considering that this statement, if true, would render any further proceeding unnecessary, they concluded not to see him about the matter. But as it was a mere report, I suggested the propriety of learning from some authentic source whether it was true.

"For this purpose, I called at his house, and told him I had understood he had made such a statement, and desired to know if it [were] true. He said it was. I replied, that our Vestry had taken some steps in the matter of calling him; but, in view of this declaration, they could take no further measures. He replied, that it was all fixed with him now, and he would remain where he was,—adding, that he had received more of a call from the Church of the Epiphany than he had from the Church of the Covenant.

"There had no other person been in the room up to this time. Some ladies coming into the room, Mr. Carden and I immediately passed out, and he took me into a back room, where we talked for a few minutes about a clergyman in Canada. No further allusion (so far as I can remember) was made to the call, than what I have stated above. I was there but a very short time, as he was just on the point of starting for the Capes, and had but a few minutes to spare.

"Very respectfully yours,
JOHN P. RHOADS."

From the mass of letters and documents presented by the Committee, the Vestry would select but one more letter, written by Mr. Carden, having a direct bearing on what occurred at this interview;—and the Report of the Committee to the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant.

Copy of Letter—Mr. Carden to Mr. Rhoads.

"*Private and Confidential.*"

"CAPE MAY, *July 19th*, 1858.

"My very dear sir,—

"I write to ask you if your Vestry will give me till the *end of August* to consider their call. I have had my mind *much troubled* to-day about your Church, and I fear I answered you to-day *too hastily*. If that time can be (without inconvenience to the Vestry) granted to me, I will then speak DECIDEDLY. I feel *very, very deeply interested* in your Church, and

more so, from what I was told to-day by a lady. Write to me IMMEDIATELY. I am stopping at the Ocean House.—But please consider this letter a *private one.*

"I am your friend and brother in Xt,
R. A. CARDEN.

—— RHOADS, Esq."

At a meeting of the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant, held July 16th, 1858, the following was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Rev. R. A. Carden, and tender him the unanimous election of Rector of the Church of the Covenant, at a salary of $2.000 per annum." Messers. J. P. Rhoads, Samuel Simes and Robert Reed, were appointed on the Committee.

Extract from the Minutes of the Church of the Covenant:

"*Sept. 8th*, 1858.

"Committee to wait upon Rev. Mr. Carden reported, in writing, as follows.

"The Committee appointed to convey to the Rev. R. A. Carden, the resolution of the Vestry, tendering him a unanimous call to the Rectorship of the Church of the Covenant, report as follows:

"Two members of the Committee proceeded without delay to perform the duty assigned them, but upon calling upon the other member, he requested a postponement of further action until the following Monday. Although the majority of the Committee felt the necessity of prompt action in the matter, yet they did not feel justified in opposing the wishes of our respected Warden, especially as the call was to be a unanimous one. They, therefore, agreed to the postponement, and in the meantime communicated the action of the Vestry to other absent members, who expressed their approval of it.

"Upon Monday morning, two of the Committee being on their way to Mr. Carden's residence, (the other member being prevented by sickness from accompanying them), learned that Mr. Carden had publicly declared to his congregation, on the previous evening, that he had that day resolved to remain permanently with them. After confirming the correctness of said

information, the Committee did not deem it expedient or proper to proceed further.

"[Signed,] "SAML. SIMES, } Com.
"J. P. RHOADS, }

"The above report was accepted, and the Committee discharged from the further consideration of the subject."

From the two letters, written by Mr. Carden, July 19, 1858, to Mr. Hagner and to Mr. Rhoads, Mr. Carden removed all obligations as to secresy, and desired the same should be reported by the Committee of investigation to the Vestry. These letters, written scarcely twenty-four hours after his declaration to the Congregation, "that he had come to this field of labor from the conviction that it was a path marked out by Divine Providence, and as long as he met with that sympathy and support from his Vestry and people, which he thought he was entitled to, he should feel it his duty and privilege to remain and labor at his present post," are certainly remarkable documents, and require no further comment.

The Committee of investigation, reported to the Vestry, that they had "endeavored in vain to convince the Rector that there might be an honest difference of opinion between himself and Mr. Hagner, as to the legality of the call to the Church of the Covenant, and expressed their own conviction, that when the Rector so stated, he believed he had a legal and distinct call, yet some requisites or formalities might have been omitted, which would justify Mr. Hagner, as well as several members of the Vestry of the Church of the Covenant, who agreed with him, in holding a different opinion;—the Rector positively refused to admit any such interpretation, and insisted, that he had such a legal and distinct call to the Church of the Covenant, as would have enabled him, had he chosen so to do, to become the Rector of that Church, without any further action whatever on the part of the Vestry."

"Your Committee feeling deeply the responsibility of their position, and ever anxious to reconcile differences, even to the point of being accused, by the Rector, of acting unfairly in their

endeavors to ascertain some method by which the statements might more nearly agree, yet, being unable to do so, are convinced that their duty will be best performed by complying with the request of the Rector, and reporting to the Vestry all the evidence in their possession relating to this matter.

"Your Committee report the following:

"*Resolved*, That in the absence of all proof of any call given by the Church of the Covenant to the Rev. Mr. Carden, and the same being denied by the gentleman who is claimed to have given such call, as well as by other members of the Vestry of that Church, in the opinion of this Vestry the Rev. Mr. Carden has no just cause of complaint against Mr. C. V. Hagner for stating his conviction, that no such call was ever given."

The whole matter having been fully discussed in the Vestry, Mr. Carden being present and participating, the yeas and nays were called upon the resolution, which was adopted unanimously, with the exception of Messrs. Carden and Hagner, who declined voting, and the Committee were discharged.

Mr. Carden then asked, the several members of the Vestry, whether they believed him to have stated what he knew to be false, when he said he had received a call to the Church of the Covenant, when most of the members replied in substance—that they did not believe that he had—(but that he had grounds for believing and saying that he might have had a call, had he chosen to have received it). Mr. Carden then said, that if such was the opinion of the gentlemen present, and they did not accuse him of wilful falsehood, he had no further cause of complaint, and he would ask the Vestry to re-consider their vote on the resolution, in order to allow him to ask leave to withdraw his letter containing the charges; which being acceded to, and the letter withdrawn, the whole matter was supposed to be ended. Mr. Carden declared his attachment to the Church of St. Matthias, and his desire for her advancement, to which he promised to devote all his future energies—which being responded to by the Vestry—the meeting was concluded in a friendly spirit, all being disposed to forget, as far as possible, what had passed.

The Rector did not attend any meetings of the Vestry held afterwards, nor were they aware of any other cause of complaint on either side, until the following letter was received at a meeting, held December 7, 1858.

"PHILADA., *Dec. 4th*, 1858.

"Gentlemen,—

"As under existing circumstances it is impossible for me to hold the Rectorship of the Church of St. Matthias, I hereby tender you my resignation of the same,—said resignation to take effect on the 1st of January, 1859. As by mutual agreement it was understood I should remain with you till the 1st of February, I will, if you desire it, occupy the pulpit till that time.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours respectfully,

R. A. CARDEN.

"To the VESTRY of the CHURCH of ST. MATTHIAS."

No further information as to the "existing circumstances" being furnished to the Vestry, and presuming they were sufficient in the estimation of the Rector, and that he had not unadvisedly taken so important a step, the resignation was promptly and unanimously accepted; but, whatever might have influenced the Rector in sending his resignation, the Vestry will say, that his manner of preaching the Gospel, his views of Doctrine or Church discipline, or any matter of a theological or ecclesiastical nature, had nothing, whatever, to do with their motives in accepting it. During the whole course of Mr. Carden's ministrations among us, no question or difference, on any of these subjects, has ever arisen between himself and the Vestry, or any member or members thereof, or between the several members of the Vestry, who have on all occasions, and in all matters relating to the Rector, acted unanimously.

The Vestry regret that, for reasons obvious in the foregoing report, they have not been able to make any progress with the subscriptions for the Church edifice, during the past year—they hope, and believe, that, during the present year, much may be done in this matter. The removal of the Hospital, which has taken place during the past year, will enable us shortly to obtain

possession of the lot of ground, purchased for the Church. And steps have been taken, looking to the erection, at an early day, of a suitable Chapel, in which to hold the services of the Church and for the accommodation of the Sunday Schools.

On the election of the late Rector, he was furnished with a Book, or Register, for the Parish. The Vestry regret to say, that this Register has been strangely neglected, many of the Baptisms, &c., not being recorded therein. As this neglect may, hereafter, be attended with important and serious consequences to the children baptized, all persons interested in this matter, are requested to hand to any of the Vestry the names, date of baptism, sponsors, &c., of persons baptized, and they will be recorded.

The only entries upon the Register are as follows:

BAPTISMS.	CONFIRMATIONS.	MARRIED.
Philip Gengembre.	Rebecca Kearney.	Mr. Chadborne to Miss Bluxome.
Edmund Burchall.	David Kearney.	
Mary Burchall.	Sallie Emerick.	
Geo. Washington Burchall.	Mrs. Mary Youst.	
Lilly Stokes.	Lizzie Mayland.	
Martin Milnor Beach.	Lucy E. Wadleigh,	
Hester Beach.	Margaret Clyde.	
James Emerson Beach.	Jane Fitzsimmons.	
Elizabeth Beach.	Miss Wayne.	
John Fontaine.	Harriet Oliver.	
Frank Dupont Marston.	Anne Cain.	
Loretta D. Faucett.	Mrs. Maria A. R. Beatty.	
Lydia W. Faucett.	Mrs. Elizabeth A. Brown.	
Zebulon Locke Faucett.	Euphemia Brown.	BURIED.
Lloyd Bankson.	Charles H. Clark.	
Charles Fronfield. Gulager. Gulager.	Mr. Bankson.	Carrie Westcott.
	Mrs. Bankson.	
	Mr. Faucett.	
William Wallace Whitney.	Mrs. Faucett.	
Lizzie Claxton Haffelfinger.	Chas. C. Haffelfinger.	
Jane Burchall.	Mr. Smith.	
Elizabeth Burchall.	Miss Barton.	
Phillipe Wm. Gengembre.	Miss Harrison.	
Chas. Augustus Gengembre.	Miss Bell Harrison.	
Wilfred Hall.	Mrs. Stouffer.	

The vacancy, in the Rectorship, the Vestry are endeavoring to fill, and hope, before long, to announce the acceptance of the position by one apt to teach, and faithful in all things appertaining to his ministry.

The Vestry have adopted, with slight modifications, the form of Charter, prepared by the Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in this Diocese, for the Church of St. Matthias,

which having been approved by the Attorney General and the Supreme Court, will shortly be sent to Harrisburg for the signature of the Governor, and enrollment, as provided for by law. It is as follows:—

Charter of the Church of St. Matthias.

WHEREAS, the following named persons, citizens of this Commonwealth, viz: Lewis R. Ashurst, John W. Claghorn, Charles V. Hagner, Charles E. Clark, Isaac C. Price, Charles C. Haffelfinger, Abra Wadleigh, Edward Gulager, Jacob Emerick, Samuel Simons, John Marston, Jr., John R. Whitney and William Stevenson Abbot, have, together with other citizens, associated for the purpose of worshipping Almighty God, according to the faith and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America; and have for that purpose, formed a Congregation in the Fifteenth Ward, of the City of Philadelphia, and are now desirous to be Incorporated, agreeably to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to confer on certain associations of the citizens of this Commonwealth, the powers and immunities of corporations, and bodies politic in law, and the supplements thereto." They, therefore, declare the following to be the objects, articles, and conditions of their said Association, agreeably to which they desire to be Incorporated, viz:

First. The name of the Corporation shall be the "CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS."

Second. This Church acknowledges itself to be a member of, and to belong to, the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, and the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. As such it accedes to, recognises, and adopts the Constitution, canons, doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, and of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, and acknowledges their authority accordingly.

Any member of this Church, or corporation, who shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the said authority, shall cease to

be a member of this Corporation, and shall not be elected, or vote in the election of Vestrymen, or exercise any office or function in, concerning, or connected with the said Church or Corporation.

Third. The rents and revenues of this Corporation shall be, from time to time, applied for the maintenance and support of the Rector, Ministers and Officers of said Church, and in the erection and necessary repairs or expenses of said Church, Church-yard, Parsonage house, and other houses, which now do, or hereafter shall, belong to the said Corporation, or in renting or furnishing any building or buildings necessary for Church purposes, and to no other use or purpose whatsoever. *Provided*, that all the property of the said Corporation shall be taken, held and enure, subject to the control and disposition of the Vestry of the same; And *Provided* that the clear annual value or income of the real and personal estate, held by the said Corporation, shall not, at any time, exceed Five Thousand Dollars.

Fourth. The Rector of this Church shall be elected by the Church Wardens and Vestrymen, in such manner as the Statutes and By-Laws shall ordain. The Vestry of the said Church shall consist of thirteen persons, lay members of the said Church, and citizens of Pennsylvania, who shall continue in office for one year, and until others be chosen, and the election of whom shall be made every year, on Easter Monday, by a majority of such adult male members of the said Church, as shall appear, by the Vestry Books, to have paid, for one year, immediately preceding the time of such election, for a pew or sitting in said Church. *Provided*, That until the first Easter Monday after the completion of the Church edifice, or use of the same for the purpose of religious worship, every contributor towards the erection of the said Church edifice, or the support of the Rector or Minister thereof, shall be entitled to vote at every election of Vestrymen, one vote for every one hundred dollars of such contribution. *Provided*, That in case of the failure to elect Vestrymen on that day, the Corporation shall not, on that account, be dissolved; but the election shall be holden on some other day, in such manner as the By-Laws may prescribe; and any vacancy

occurring in the Vestry, shall be supplied by the remaining members thereof. At the meeting of the Vestry, the Rector, if present, may preside, and in all matters, except such as concern the property of the Corporation, shall, in case of a tie, be entitled to give the casting vote.

Fifth. No person shall be Rector or Assistant Minister of this Church, unless he shall have had Episcopal Ordination, and unless he be in full standing with the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, and in the United States, and recognised as such by the Bishop of this Diocese; or, in the case of a vacancy in the Episcopate, by the Standing Committee of the Diocese.

Sixth. The said Vestry shall have full power to choose their own officers; and they shall annually, at the first meeting after their election, choose one of their own number to be one Church Warden, and the Rector, for the time being, shall elect another of the said Vestrymen to be the other Church Warden of the said Church. In case of a vacancy in the office of Rector at the time of the election, the other Church Warden shall also be chosen by the Vestry, to remain until the election of a Rector, or a new election of the Vestry; and, during such vacancy, all the powers of the Corporation shall be exercised by the Vestry, as fully and entirely as if no such vacancy had occurred. *Provided, always*, That it shall be the duty of the said Church Wardens and Vestrymen, to elect another Rector to supply the vacancy, as soon as conveniently may be.

Seventh. By-Laws, not inconsistent with this Charter, may be made by the Vestry, for their own government, and the regulation of the temporal affairs of the Church; and all pews and sittings in the said Church shall be held subject thereto.

Eighth. This Charter may be amended in the following manner,—that is to say:—Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to a Stated or Special Meeting of the Vestry, and, if the same shall be approved by a majority of the whole of the members thereof, the same shall be submitted to a Meeting of the members of the Congregation, who are entitled to vote for Vestrymen, and, if approved by a majority of the persons present

at such meeting, the same shall be submitted to the next Convention, and if by it approved, shall be and form part of the Charter, upon the subsequent confirmation thereof by the Court which granted the original Charter, or other competent authority.

Ninth. In case of the dissolution of the said Corporation, all the property of the same shall vest in Trustees, in trust to hold and convey the same to and for any future Congregation or members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which may be formed in the same neighborhood, and to and for no other purpose; and the said Trustees shall consist of such persons as may be appointed by the proper Court, on the application of any interested party.

Tenth. The following named persons shall be the Church Wardens and Vestrymen, to continue in office until the election on Easter Monday next, and until others be chosen, viz:—Charles V. Hagner, Senior Warden; John R. Whitney, Accounting Warden; Lewis R. Ashurst, John W. Claghorn, Chas. E. Clark, Isaac C. Price, Charles C. Haffelfinger, Albra Wadleigh, Edward Gulager, Jacob Emerick, Samuel Simons, John Marston, Jr., and William Stephenson Abbot.

STATEMENT

Showing the Receipts and Expenditures of the Church of St. Matthias for the year ending January 31*st*, 1858.

RECEIPTS.

From the Rental of Seats, . .	$1,018 38	
" Subscriptions by the Congregation to the Deficiency Fund, .	103 50	
" Subscriptions by the Vestry, .	477 00	
" Collections, exclusive of Communion offerings, . . .	628 88	$2,227 76

EXPENSES.

Rent of Chapel at Nineteenth and North sts., . .	$315 00	
" " Spring Garden Institute Lecture Room, . .	343 33	
" " Parsonage, 2309 Green st., 10½ months, @ $300 per annum, . . .	262 50	
Salary of Rector (exclusive of Parsonage) 10 months, @ $1,000 per annum, .	833 33	
Salary of Sexton, ...	72 00	
Rent of Organ, Music Books, &c., .	59 50	
Gas, ...	25 61	
Furniture and Fuel, ...	170 34	
Communion Wine, ...	11 75	
Sunday School, ...	34 00	
Miscellaneous Account, . . .	95 09	
Balance in the Treasury, . . .	5 31	$2,227 76

Some of the items in the above statement need, perhaps, some explanation. In regard to those of "Subscriptions by the Congregation," and "by the Vestry, to the Deficiency Fund," it is proper to observe, that before calling the late Rector, in order to have a reliable income to meet the increased expenses which would result from such a call, nine of then existing Vestry pledged themselves to be responsible for specified sums, amounting, in all, to $900, and authorized the Accounting Warden to draw from them at the close of each quarter for such per centage of the amount as would cover the deficiency for that quarter. As will be seen, fifty-three per cent. of the amount has been called in, and the Accounting Warden has thus been enabled to meet every obligation of the Parrish, promptly when presented. At the same time that this subscription was made on the part of the Vestry, a more general and unconditional one was opened for signature by members of the Congregation for the same purpose.

The item of "Rent of the Spring Garden Institute Lecture Room," includes the charge for its occupancy on two occasions not included in the lease,—viz.: Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. Although this Room was rented for two years from June 1st, 1858, yet it was only occupied by the Vestry until about the middle of January last, and they were released from their contract on the 1st of February,—making the time for which they paid rent only eight months.

"Under the head of "Miscellaneous Account," is included advertising, carriage hire, traveling expenses, &c.

All of which is respectfully submitted by the Vestry.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PAROCHIAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Church of St. Matthias

PHILADELPHIA.

For the year ending May 2d, 1881.

PHILADELPHIA:
McCALLA & STAVELY, PRS., 237–9 DOCK STREET.
1881.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS.

RECTOR.

REV. ROBERT A. EDWARDS, No. 631 North Nineteenth Street.

RECTOR'S ASSISTANT.

REV. H. ALLEN GRIFFITH, Corner 39th and Walnut Streets.

VESTRYMEN.

CHAS. B. BARRETT, *Rector's Warden.*
JAMES HAY,
JOSEPH R. DICKINSON,
CHARLES W. FUNK,
MOSES PAXSON,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS,
HENRY S. GODSHALL, *Accounting Warden.*
THOMAS R. GILL,
WILLIAM P. TROTH,
WILLIAM S. HARVEY,
WILLIAM F. MOODY,
DR. LOUIS K. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee on Finance.

JAMES HAY, THOMAS R. GILL,
CHARLES W. FUNK.

Committee on Sunday School.

WILLIAM S. HARVEY, DR. L. K. BALDWIN,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS.

Committee on Music.

JOS. R. DICKINSON, MOSES PAXSON,
WM. F. MOODY.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

CHARLES B. BARRETT, WILLIAM P. TROTH,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS.

ORGANIST.

PROF. A. BACHMANN, 1327 North Eighteenth Street.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Main School.
THE RECTOR.

Infant Department.
MRS. ANNA G. VOLKMAR.

Office of Accounting Warden, 230 South Third Street.
Residence, 2105 Spring Garden Streets.

SEXTON.

JAMES THOMAS, 1822 Olive Street.

Special Collections, designated and fixed by the Vestry, to be taken up in the Church throughout the ensuing year :

MORNING COLLECTIONS.

Sunday, May 15th.—Evangelical Education Society.
Sunday, June 19th.—Episcopal and Convention Fund.
Sunday, July 17th.—Dissemination of Christian Literature.
Sunday, Sept. 18th.—Diocesan Missions.
Sunday, Oct. 16th.—Parish Sunday School.
Thanksgiving Day. —Episcopal Hospital.
Christmas Day. —Fund for Disabled Clergymen.
Sunday, Jan. 15, '82.—Foreign Missions.
Sunday, Feb. 19, '82.—Domestic Missions.
Good Friday, '82.—For Jews and Deaf Mutes.
Easter Sunday, '82.—Parish Sunday School.

The Rector may change the time for taking up any of the above special collections, and others may be ordered by the Vestry. ALL OTHER COLLECTIONS, except the Offertory at Holy Communion, will be for the

SINKING FUND

for extinguishment of the CHURCH DEBT.

Holy Communion first Sunday morning of the month at 10.30.

Infant Baptism first Sunday afternoon of the month at 4 o'clock. Notice to be previously given the Rector.

In case of funerals, families will please consult the Rector before designating an hour for the services. It is earnestly requested that funerals be not appointed for the Lord's Day.

Pew-holders or worshippers changing their residence will please give the Accounting Warden or Sexton their new address.

Church of St. Matthias.

THE PAROCHIAL COMMITTEE OF THE VESTRY desire to lay before the members of the congregation their Annual Report of the work and condition of the Parish.

IMPROVEMENTS.

IN our last report, we spoke of the great need of improving the interior of our Church, so as to bring it more into keeping with the solemnities of a house of worship. The plans and improvements then proposed, we are happy to state, have been carried out, more agreeably and successfully even, than we had then ventured to hope.

The contract for frescoing and painting was given to Mr. George Herzog, who faithfully and skillfully executed in every respect the work assigned him. Ventilators were introduced in the ceiling, and handsome chandeliers, taking the place of the former unsightly gas fixtures, were hung in the chancel and throughout the Church. The outer doors and the fences surrounding the Churchyards were painted. These improvements have made our Church not only one of the most comfortable, but one of the most attractive and beautiful in our city.

In our Chapel, the partition separating the former Bible Class-rooms from the main school was removed, to provide for the increased growth of the latter, and some other additional improvements were made.

The expense of all these things amounted to $2500—being $1000 more than we had estimated in a general way in

our last report, but when the bills fell due, money was in hand to pay every dollar. For this we are largely indebted to the unfaltering zeal and devotion of the ladies of the Parish, who in the fall held a Bazaar, which was very successful, pecuniarily as well as socially. It not only brought our people together in pleasant intercourse, but it realized profits which, added to the sum previously collected by the Mite Society, paid for the alterations, and left a balance of nearly $700 to be expended hereafter in the enlargement of the Sunday School buildings. The Church was re-opened on Sunday morning, September 12th, an appropriate sermon being preached by the Rector (who had just returned from abroad), on the "Dignity of Sacred Worship," from the text, 1 Chronicles, xvi. 29: "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." The occasion was one of deep and gladsome interest to the large congregation who were present.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

THIS department of our Parish work has been faithfully and successfully carried on. Though no prizes of any kind, or for any purpose, have been offered during the year, there has yet been an increase of about 100 scholars since our last report, thus attesting a quiet and steady growth.

The statistics are as follows:

MAIN SCHOOL (Teachers and Scholars), . . .	378
INFANT " " "	184
BIBLE CLASSES, " "	143
Total, ...	705

Being an increase of about 200 in two years.

The Festival of the Infant School was held on Holy Innocents' Day in the Chapel, and though the walking was very dangerous, a large number of the little people were present with their friends. Carols were sung, addresses delivered by the ministers of the Parish, and the Christmas Tree shed its wondrous, fairy fruit of dolls, toys, confectionery, etc., etc.

Next evening, in one of the wildest driving snow storms of this inclement winter, the Festival of the Main School and Bible Classes was held, scarcely a scholar being absent, and the Church being well filled with an interested congregation. A massive fir tree stood upon the chancel platform and fascinated all eyes with its glowing lights and rich treasures. The warmth and cheer within, made all completely oblivious to the howling storm that raged without.

On Easter Sunday afternoon, the Twenty-Fourth Anniversary of the Sunday Schools was held. The singing was unusually good, the organ being accompanied by a cornet. There were no floral designs or emblems apart from those with which the Church was dressed ; the children, however, brought up their Lenten boxes, which, ranged on tables in front of the Chancel, were not only pleasing in their simple array, but valuable in their contents. We were all surprised to know that the Lenten Offerings of the schools reached the large sum of $474.80. An interesting address was delivered by Miss Margaretta Scott, who for sixteen years has been one of our Church's most devoted missionaries in Africa. On Easter Sunday evening the Rite of Confirmation was administered by Bishop Stevens to a class of 44 candidates, most of whom were persons of mature years, or heads of families ; many were *members of our Bible Classes*, thus cheering the hearts of the Rector and his fellow-laborers in this branch of Church work.

The Sunday School Treasurer reports as follows:

Appropriations of the children's offerings during the year:

Church Home (Angora)	$44 29
Children's Country Week,	20 00
Parish Sewing School,	46 21
Thomas C. Warren Scholarship, Jaffa,	25 00
City Missions,	49 34
Indian Missions,	58 37
Western Missions,	61 09
Mexican Mission,	156 60
Enlargement of Sunday School,	314 20
	$775 10

For support of Schools, the following has been received :

June, Part Proceeds Strawberry Festival,	$53 45
October, Collection in Church,	67 06
November, Young People's Entertainment,	97 00
Easter Day, Collection in Church,	305 00
	$522 51

It is proposed during the summer to provide enlarged quarters for our Sunday School by utilizing the vacant space between our Church and Chapel. It is believed by the architect, who has been consulted, that enlargements and improvements can here be made, which will meet all our requirements for the Sunday Schools and other needed Parish agencies. Plans are now being prepared and examined, and the Vestry will soon decide what shall be done. Our Bible Classes, which are now compelled to meet in the Church, and from their size form a little congregation of themselves, should be provided with separate rooms, where each teacher can quietly explain the Word of God, without the conflicting and disturbing influences of a larger room where several classes assemble.

It is hoped that the congregation will respond as nobly for this pressing need, as they have done for the improvements of the Church edifice. The growth of the past warns us to provide for the wants of the future.

Miss Detta Lafore, a lady who was confirmed a year ago, and who passed through a great deal of physical suffering this past winter, was called to her heavenly rest in the month of March. She underwent severe surgical operations with rare Christian fortitude, and though bereft for many years of the blessings of sight, "*endured as seeing* Him who is invisible," testifying gladly that Jesus was precious to her soul. She bequeathed to the Rector the sum of $300 to be devoted to any Church object he should designate. If the present plans of enlargement, or something similar are carried out, he proposes to apply the bequest towards making one of the new rooms a Memorial of her.

Tunis J. Hellings, an active and bright young lad, 14

years of age, and connected with our Sunday School for several years, was called out of the world last fall by an accident of a very sad and painful character. In a few short hours, his life that gave promise of great energy and usefulness, was suddenly brought to an end, to the great grief of his family and friends. His parents, are about to apply $500 of some money which belonged to him, to the enlargement and improvement of another of the proposed Bible Class Rooms; thus seeking in well-doing one of the surest balms for sorrow, and honoring also the Name of Him, whose ways "are past finding out," but who doeth all things well.

Any other persons in the congregation who may desire to similarly contribute, will please communicate with the Rector at once.

THE SEWING SCHOOL

Was resumed on Saturday, November 6th, 1880, and was kept open on subsequent Saturdays from 2.30 P. M. to 4.30 P. M., ending Saturday, April 9th. It began with 15 teachers and 72 scholars, and closed with 31 teachers and 183 scholars, the number on the roll rising as high as 200, when it became necessary to decline receiving any more. The work here carried on has been remarkably successful, 398 garments and articles of clothing having been completed, and 10 small quilts made, which were sent to the Infants' Home, West Philadelphia. Acknowledgments have been received with grateful thanks from the "Home for Aged Couples," for 2 large double quilts, made last winter by the school and since presented. The smaller articles made are given to the little girls for themselves, and the skill displayed by some of them in the use of the needle, after a few weeks training, has been very marked. The closing exercises partook of the nature of a festival, and were largely attended, many of the scholars wearing the bibs or aprons made by their own little fingers. Hymns were sung, texts repeated, pieces recited, and prizes of a silver thimble and books awarded, to those

who had attained the greatest proficiency in sewing with the needle. Ice cream and cake were bountifully supplied to the children and their friends, and the occasion was one of great happiness and good cheer to all present, the little ones carrying home with them gifts of oranges and candy.

Amount contributed for the school apart from donations, $92.31.

COTTAGE LECTURES

Were held for several months of the winter season, and were conducted, in the main, by two gentlemen of the Parish, the Rector and his Assistant occasionally taking part, and one of the lady teachers acting as "Visitor" through the immediate neighborhood where the meeting was held. The interest has been more marked than during last winter, and the results more encouraging. The average attendance was 32, the smallest being 22, and the largest 50. The influence of our Church has been extended, God's Truth has been taught, and some souls have been led to acknowledge it. We wish that more of our laity, besides those who have served so well and truly for the past two years, could be led to engage in carrying on these meetings. They accomplish a great amount of good, in a very humble way, among many who without them might never be brought to Christ or His Church.

SEWING SOCIETIES.

The Ladies' Sewing Society met on Thursday mornings during the Lenten season, and prepared such a quantity of garments, that when the gentlemen came to pack them one Wednesday night after service, they found the large box which had been provided too small, and so a second one was also filled. These were sent to a clergyman laboring in one of the missionary fields of distant Minnesota, a lady of the Parish kindly enclosing at the same time $50 in money.

The missionary in acknowledging the receipt of these gifts, writes, "I arrived at home last night from a missionary tour to the Red River country. I found many families whose homes were on the lowlands, driven out from their houses by the overflow of the river, which has risen 23 feet and more, within the last ten days. We are all delighted with the nice and comfortable things which I found awaiting me, and which your kindness has bestowed. I am quite proud (in a lawful way I hope) of my new suit. It is very nice, and a perfect fit. My wife sends special thanks to the Bible Class for the work basket, and other useful things sent by them. The money will be of great service in helping us to provide many comforts and necessaries for our little sick daughter. The other children are greatly pleased, not only with their clothing, but also with the pictures and Easter eggs you so kindly sent them." The boxes were valued at $200.

The Young Ladies' Bible Class also prepared a box which was sent to a Missionary in an adjoining Diocese, for his children. His wife writes: "Words cannot express my *sincere thankfulness.* If the children had been at your side, their dresses, which are so lovely and made so beautifully, could not have fitted better. J.'s heart was filled with delight at the very sight of his nice suit, and of the *long* pants, too, the very desire of his heart, and when the treasure,* so snugly hidden in his pocket was found, his face fairly grew radiant. M. was delighted with the beautiful basket, and B. charmed and unutterably happy in the possession of her doll. May our Father shower upon each of you blessings both temporal and eternal." Value of box, $100.

Thus does God own the work and labor that proceedeth of love and make it doubly a blessing as well to him that gives as to him that receives.

In this connection it may be stated that the teacher of the Women's Bible Class established a sort of Parish Aid in connection with her work. Meetings were held in the Vestry Room from the middle of November to the middle of April, on Friday afternoons, and were well attended.

* A trifle of money.

YOUNG PEOPLES' ASSOCIATION.

The Young Peoples' Association continued its meetings during the winter months, and was the means of bringing our people together sociably month after month, as also of drawing out some of the amateur talent of our Parish and neighborhood. Concerts were given by some of the young people skilled in music, while readings and recitations were rendered by others; and lectures delivered on tours in Europe by some of the congregation who had traveled there. The admission was free to all the entertainments, except the opening and the closing one.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

The Visiting Committee of the Vestry has made sundry visits during the year, its main object being to call upon all new parishioners. In this they have been aided at times by ladies of the Parish, who kindly called upon some of the new-comers. All persons worshipping in the Church will confer a favor by giving their names to the Rector or Accounting Warden.

THE LIBRARIES.

These rooms, as also the Robing Room and Rector's Study were all neatly frescoed last summer. The old library shelves were removed and new ones erected, containing a separate niche for each book. The delivery of books is thus expedited and risk of loss greatly lessened. Only one book is missing at this time and it will likely be found ere the schools close.

We ought soon to make an effort to obtain new books for our Parish Library; in the meantime donations of suitable second-hand books will be gladly received. This library is open every Wednesday evening at the close of service.

MUSIC.

Last summer the Church was closed three months, while the improvements already mentioned were being carried on, service being held on Sunday mornings in the Chapel, and a voluntary choir conducting very satisfactorily the musical portions of the service. On the re-opening of the Church a new choir organization was effected, the contract with the former one having expired when the Church was closed. The new organist is a careful, painstaking choir-master, who devotes a great deal of time to his rehearsals; the choir has been augmented to a double quartette, in general there being even more voices than these; the best of good feeling pervades it, and as nearly all are communicants, the musical interests of the Church are very faithfully looked after. The Sunday School is much indebted for valuable assistance received from two gentlemen of the choir in the preparation and rendering of its carols at Christmas and Easter—services which were most cheerfully rendered.

SPECIAL SERVICES.

Sermons were preached on Tuesday afternoons during Lent by the Rectors of the adjoining and neighboring parishes. We were thus favored with excellent discourses by the Rev. Messrs. Murray, Lewis, Morsell, Graff and Hubbard. The Lenten services were never before so largely attended, it becoming necessary to hold them in the Church edifice during Passion Week. On the evening of Holy Thursday a larger number of communicants partook of the Lord's Supper than

at any other Communion of the year. On Good Friday night, at a very impressive service, 11 adults were baptized.

We are also indebted to several of the Clergy for services kindly and lovingly rendered during the illness of the Rector last fall, and to the Rt. Rev'd, the Bishop of the Diocese, who, besides preaching, administered the Holy Communion.

Previous to Lent for six weeks, Miss Sarah Smiley gave Bible Readings in our Chapel, which were designed mainly for ladies, and were largely attended, the average number present being about 300. She very simply and lucidly explained leading truths of God's Word, presenting Christ distinctly to her hearers as a personal Saviour, and awakening among them a deeper interest in the study of the Scriptures.

A very interesting service was held on Sunday afternoon, February 20th, the First Regiment of this city and the Veteran Corps, of which bodies our Rector is Chaplain, attending Divine services in our Parish. The soldiers filled the four rows of pews in the body of the Church, while their friends occupied the side pews and the gallery, an immense concourse outside being unable to gain admittance. The service was read by Rev. Messrs. Griffith, List and Newbold, and the sermon, which was attentively listened to by the large assembly, was preached by the Chaplain from Ecclesiastes viii, 8, "There is no discharge in that war." The bearing of the men was very reverent, and the singing excellent.

THE OFFERINGS

Of the congregation for general Church work, as will be seen by the Accounting Warden's Report, are larger than ever before. The request of the Rector that $300 should be given on Thanksgiving Day for a free bed in the Episcopal Hospital, as also a like amount on Easter Day for the support of the Sunday Schools, were both promptly responded

to, something more being given on each occasion than was required. The Secretary of the Missionary Board received also, at once, in February, the amount he asked for to support a clergyman in the West for a year.

The bed in the Hospital was occupied most of the winter by a poor but deserving woman in the Parish, who is now, however, restored to health and strength.

May each year see among our people a desire to do still greater things for Him "who *giveth us* richly *all* things to enjoy."

THE CHARTER

WHICH was presented a year ago for Amendment and so favorably acted upon by the pew-holders, was afterwards approved by the Bishop and Convention of the Diocese and ratified by the Civil Courts. It is now in conformity with that set forth by the Convention of the Diocese, and accords the Rector those rights as head of the Corporation to which he is entitled, as well by the usage of the Episcopal Church as by the laws of the land.

The By-Laws have since been amended in conformity to the charter, the principal change being in the forbidding hereafter of the sale of pews by the vestry, a practice that ought not be encouraged in the Christian Church.

Our thanks are due to MacGregor J. Mitcheson, Esq., who carried the matter through the Courts and who declined any compensation for his services.

FINANCES.

THE Accounting Warden makes a most encouraging and gratifying statement of our financial condition. He reports the present pew-roll as representing an income per annum of $9353.60, which is divided among 205 tenants. The payment of debts during the year has amounted to $2360.62,

reducing the amount of outstanding Church Bonds to $10,200. The total receipts for the year aggregate $16,328.44. Last year they were $12,853.10. Finding that Permanent Insurance could be effected at a reduced rate, he withdrew the deposit on the old policies and received new ones in the same or equally good Companies, thus gaining for the Church, $282.50.

The pew-rents due and still collectible amount to upwards of $700.

Herewith you will find condensed statements:

RECEIPTS.

Pew-Rents *collected*,	$8,461 36
Communion Offertory,	377 87
Collections in Church,	2,532 60
Support of Sunday Schools,	522 51
Ladies' Mite Society,	2,791 50
Sunday School and Individual Subscriptions,	1,360 10
Insurance deposit refunded,	282 50
	$16,328 44

PAYMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

Current Expenses (Rector's Salary, Choir, etc.),	$6,476 36
Interest and Ground Rents,	1,412 54
Repairs and Improvements,	2,458 75
Payment of Debts,	2,360 22
Support of Sunday Schools,	317 93
Episcopal and Convention Fund,	125 00
American Church Missionary Society,	228 87
Evangelical Education Society,	72 47
Diocesan Missions,	62 65
Episcopal Hospital,	311 00
Foreign Missions,	101 61
For Disabled Clergymen,	76 72
For the Jews,	25 00
Deaf Mute Mission,	25 00
Sunday School Contributions elsewhere given	775 10
Miscellaneous,	487 00
	$15,316 22

The following statistics are presented:

Baptisms—Adults, 11; Infants, 22,	33
Marriages,	14
Burials,	16
Confirmed,	44
Present number of Communicants,	475

Your Committee have thus, dear friends, given an outline of the work of the Parish for the year. And yet it scarcely represents a *whole* year's active service, for the Rector was absent in Europe three months of the summer, while the Church was being frescoed, and was prostrated shortly after his return by a dangerous sickness from which he was, however, happily restored, and with vigor greatly renewed. But the spirit of harmony which has pervaded our congregation during the winter, and the unity of action which has guided them have, with God's blessing, combined to make it one of the most signally successful periods in the history of the Parish.

Let us enter upon another year of service, with feelings of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His blessings vouchsafed in the past, and pray Him for grace to serve Him more and more acceptably in the future; thus may we hope that God will continue to bless us and we shall each and all secure sweeter and richer blessings in Christ Jesus.

ROB'T A. EDWARDS,
Rector.

CHARLES B. BARRETT,
HENRY S. GODSHALL,
JAMES HAY,
WILLIAM S. HARVEY,
WILLIAM F. MOODY,
Parochial Committee.

LIST OF PEW-HOLDERS.

Abbott, Mrs. Jas. G.....1705 Green street.
Alter, Mrs. W. W.....2006 Spring Garden street.
Aull, James A.....2225 Green street.
Amos, Miss Clara.....804 Capital street.

Brown, Mrs. J. H.....1906 Parrish street.
Barr, John D.....1933 Mount Vernon street.
Beck, James N.....1910 Wallace street.
Baxter, John.....728 N. 20th street.
Brown, Mrs. Eva.....2003 Mount Vernon street.
Bradshaw, Mrs. Jos. T.....2215 Spring Garden street
Burton, Miss Kate M.....2222 Fairmount avenue.
Burnell, Mrs. E. D.....1816 N. 18th street.
Baldwin, M.D., Louis K.....1900 Wallace street.
Brinton, M.D., J. Bernard.....755 Corinthian avenue.
Buckman, John W.....2200 Green street.
Borden John.....727 North 20th street.
Barrett, Chas. B.....1704 Wallace street.
Belfield, T. Broom.....1905 Spring Garden street.
Babb, Mrs Rosalie.....1201 Green street.
Ball, Miss M. J.....1704 Spring Garden street.
Brown, Thomas H.....700 North 16th street.
Bunting, Chas. W.....2043 Green street.
Bachmann, Mrs. A.....1327 North 18th street.
Bowlby, Miss Catharine.....2017 Mount Vernon street.
Blitz, Mrs. Helen E.....New York.
Beyer, Henry C.....527 North 22d street.
Blackburne, J. M.....2120 Spring Garden street.
Bailey, Wm. S.....1832 Wallace street.

Calhoun, Alex.....850 West street.
Cassell, Edwin E.....802 North 20th street.
Clark, Augustus T.....1513 Fairmount avenue.
Carre, D. A. H.....1532 Wallace street.
Crawford, W. H.....723 North 17th street.
Clark, Henry K.....707 North 20th street.
Crow, Jr., Alexander.....2112 Spring Garden street.
Cresson, Mrs. E. T.....1538 Green street.
Conrad, J. Hicks.....1506 Arch street.
Campbell, S. S.....1806 Green street.

Charlton, John.....757 Corinthian avenue.
Chambers, David W.....1906 Green street.
Cheney, J. E. .....633 North 19th street.
Cooper, Frank L.....2109 Spring Garden street.
Cardeza, Jos. M.....2316 Green street.
Carrick, Wm. C.....1919 Vine street.
Chesebrough, Edw. C.....2007 Wallace street.

Donaldson, Weston.....2014 Mount Vernon street.
Deibert, Wm. F.....935 North 10th street.
Duff, William A.....2306 Green street.
Dorey, Daniel .....1716 Spring Garden street.
Dietrich, Isaac H.....1720 Spring Garden street.
Dougherty, James.....2212 Green street.
DeSilver, R. P.....1519 Poplar street.
Dickinson, Jos. R.....744 North 19th street.
Davis, W. F.....1909 Mount Vernon street.
Delacroix, Miss Mary O.....302 North 19th street.

English, Mrs. Edw. B.....1830 Wallace street.
Evans, Miss Kate.....2015 Wallace street.
Edwards, Mrs. Howard .....2026 Mount Vernon street.

Ford, Robert H.....645 North 16th street.
Fox, Mrs. Virginia S.....1810 Wallace street.
Funk, Charles W.....1807 Wallace street.
Frorer, Robert.....825 North 20th street.
Fox, John M..... .....631 North 16th street.

Green, Miss Kate.....1532 Mount Vernon street.
Geisse, Henry A.....1317 Spring Garden street.
Gaskell, Mrs. Anna E .....726 Shirley street.
Gratz, L. C..... .....100 South 21st street.
Griffin, Miss Sarah.....1812 Green street.
Govers, Miss Mary.....Girard College.
Gill, Thomas R.....2021 Green street.
Gregg, William L.....1625 Green street.
Godshall, Henry S.....2105 Spring Garden street.
Geib, Miss Rebecca B. S.....1007 Race street.
Grambo, Mrs. Rose.....718 North 20th street.
Griffith, Thomas.....2027 Green street.

Harte, James..... .....853 West street.
Hanmore, Miss E.....2323 Green street.
Hambright, Mrs. E. B..... .....2131 Brandywine street.
Haines, Mrs. G. B.....1628 Wallace street.
Hay, George.....2226 Wallace street.
Hooley, Mrs. Jas.....702 North 16th street.

Harper, James H .....1913 Green street.
Hay, James.....1808 Spring Garden street.
Hargrave, Mrs. H.....719 North 19th street.
Harvey, William S.....807 Perkiomen street.
Hagstoz, T. B.....738 North 20th street.
Howson, Charles..... ...1909 Fairmount avenue.
Howson, Henry.....1909 Fairmount avenue.
Hay, Alexander.....1939 Spring Garden street.
Hellings, Tunis, J.....2012 Spring Garden street.
Haffelfinger, Charles C.....3731 Spruce street.
Haynes, Arch. C.....1524 Brown street.
Hannum, Mrs. Mary S.....1936 Nicholas street.

Inskeep, Miss..... .....1205 Davis street.
Ireland, Alphonso C.....1801 Mount Vernon street.

Johnson, Benjamin.....645 N. 16th street.
James, H. M.....610 North 21st street.
Jones, David.....2315 Green street.
Johns, William H.....2002 Green street.

Keenan, Mrs. Henry.....1382 Ridge avenue.
Kearney, David.....1840 Wylie street.
Kunkel, William F.....S. W. cor. 18th and Wallace sts.
Kille, John T.....1822 Green street.
Kerr, William J.....2027 Mount Vernon street.
King, Henri C.....1531 North 19th street.
Klink, Clarence K.....1521 North 20th street.
Key, Miss Isabella.....1726 Green street.
Kirkpatrick, James T.....1713 Green street.
Kirkbride, William.....1824 Mount Vernon street.

Laverty, J. Hood.....24th and Parrish streets.
Litle, Mrs. Anna M.....2423 Fairmount avenue.
Laverty, Miss Mary.....1419 Ridge avenue.
Lind, Mrs. Robert.....2140 Green street.
Louderbach, Rev. Alfred.....716 North 19th street.
Lafore, Mrs. A.....627 North 15th street.
Long, J. Irwin.....863 North 11th street.
Lynch, Frank A .....2211 Wallace street.
Leibert, Mrs. Jane..... .....557 North 16th street.
Levy, Mrs. E. S.....1702 Spring Garden street.
Lex, Jacob H.....1701 Wallace street.
Latta, Mrs. James W.....1525 Mount Vernon street.
Lawrence, John.....244 North 10th street.
Leisenring, Miss Annie.....1708 Mount Vernon street.

Michael, Robert J.....2303 Penna. ave.
Martin, Mrs. Elizabeth B.....1912 Fairmount avenue.

Moore, Mrs. J. Burr.....2040 Wallace street.
Murray, Mrs. E. E.....1711 Fairmount avenue.
Moody, William F.....1913 Spring Garden street.
Myers, Miss Mary G.....1313 Fairmount avenue.
Morrison, Mrs. Mary A.....2137 Mount Vernon street.
Munroe, Thomas G.....1812 Wallace street.
Morris, Samuel .....1713 Mount Vernon street.
Meehan, Miss Charlotte.....1922 Fairmount avenue.

McFeeter, William.....2059 Brandywine street.
McCall, William E.....1727 Mount Vernon street.
McAllister, Mrs. E.....1832 Wallace street.
McIlhenney, George.....1711 Olive street.

Nagle, Miss Rebecca.....2511 Continental avenue.
Nagle, Miss Jane.....2511 Continental avenue.
Newhall, William E.....1702 Wallace street.

Oram, Mrs..... 1614 Brown street.

Perrine, Jona. S.....1823 Mount Vernon street.
Paxson, Moses.....750 North 19th street.
Popham, Mrs. C. A.....2001 Green street.
Pue, Mrs. Ellie.....1904 Fairmount avenue.
Patterson, Henry C.....612 North 15th street.
Paul, Samuel M.....1324 North 11th street.
Pancoast, Misses..... 2230 Brandywine street.
Plumer, Mrs. M. J.....2144 Sharswood street.
Powell, Philip.....1903 Mount Vernon street.

Rhawn, William H.....2009 Spring Garden street.
Richards, A. W.....2229 Wallace street.
Rickards, Dr. William M. L.....601 North 17th street.
Roberts, M.D., Jacob .....2033 Green street.
Rutherford, A. P.....1929 Fairmount avenue.
Remak, Gustavus.....1308 Arch street.
Rountree, Mrs. Jane.....1830 Market street.
Rothermel, S. H.....1838 Wallace street.
Roberts, General Joseph.....748 North 16th street.
Rutherford, Miss Maggie C.....1804 Fairmount avenue.
Riehle, Mrs Harry K.....1713 Green street.
Roe, Ann M. H.....

Smith, Christian F .....1337 Fairmount avenue.
Sherborne, John C.....2005 Wallace street.
Shultz, Mrs. M. J.....1936 Wallace street.
Shultz, Mrs. Walter F.....2221 Mount Vernon street.
Smith, Edward Clarence.....501 North 18th street.
Smith, Uselma C.....1515 Green street.

Shipley, Malcolm A..... 842 North 19th street.
Stroup, Henry C.....2116 Mount Vernon street.
Smith, Miss Jane.....N. E. cor. Broad and Jefferson sts.
Smith, Wm. A.....1930 Mount Vernon street.
Stiles, Henry A.....618 North 16th street.
Smith, Miss Mary.....803 North 19th street.
Stroup, Miss Annie E.....2204 Wallace street.
Stratton, Henry C.....2012 Mount Vernon street.
Sullender, Mrs. James.....1714 Wallace street.
Sinexson, Miss Cecelia.....2409 North College avenue.
Shriver, William.....1719 Wallace street.
Stout, David E.....1802 Spring Garden street.

Thomas, Charles M.....727 Corinthian avenue.
Thornton, Jos. D.....2029 Green street.
Taylor, Mrs. Esther B.....1813 Spring Garden street.
Taite, Jos. G.....2007 Mount Vernon street.
Troth, William P.....1836 Wallace street.
Thomas, James .....1822 Olive street.

Vandegrift, Charles M.....2211 Mount Vernon street.
Vogel, Theodore K.....2146 Mount Vernon street.
Verner, William.....2029 Spring Garden street.
Volkmar, Mrs. Anna G.....2004 Brandywine street.

Warren, Mrs. Thomas C.....1711 Mount Vernon street.
Whiteley, Miss Tillie J.....1815 Mount Vernon street.
Wise, John S.....2023 Mount Vernon street.
Weimer, John S.....1934 Wallace street.
Wayne, Stephen S.....2415 Fairmount avenue.
Walker, Jr., John.....2015 Green street.
Wattson, Thomas D.....1613 Green street.
Wiener, Lewis.....1721 Spring Garden street.
Wilkinson, Mrs. Eliza.....1247 North 26th street.
Wooldridge, B. Morton.....2112 Brandywine street.
Warwick, Charles F.....630 North 17th street.
Wunder, Miss.....1625 Master street.
Williams, Jr., R.....1830 Green street.
Worner, Octavius.....647 North 17th street.
Warren, Henry L.....1017 Arch street.

Yerkes, Miss Lizzie.....865 North 20th street.
Yerkes, Jr., Charles T.....1535 Girard avenue.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PAROCHIAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Church of St. Matthias

PHILADELPHIA.

For the year ending May 1st, 1882.

PHILADELPHIA:
McCALLA & STAVELY, PRS., 237-9 DOCK STREET.
1882.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS.

RECTOR.

REV. ROBERT A. EDWARDS, No. 631 North Nineteenth Street.

ASSISTANT MINISTER.

REV. WM. M. HARRISON, Corner 39th and Walnut Streets.

VESTRYMEN.

CHAS. B. BARRETT, *Rector's Warden.*
JAMES HAY,
JOSEPH R. DICKINSON,
CHARLES W. FUNK,
MOSES PAXSON,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS,
HENRY S. GODSHALL, *Accounting Warden.*
THOMAS R. GILL,
WILLIAM P. TROTH,
WILLIAM S. HARVEY,
WILLIAM F. MOODY,
DR. LOUIS K. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee on Finance.

JAMES HAY, THOMAS R. GILL, CHARLES W. FUNK.

Committee on Sunday School.

WILLIAM S. HARVEY, DAVID W. CHAMBERS, MOSES PAXSON.

Committee on Music.

JOSEPH R. DICKINSON, WILLIAM F. MOODY, HENRY S. GODSHALL.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

CHAS. B. BARRETT, WILLIAM P. TROTH, DR. LOUIS K. BALDWIN.

ORGANIST.

PROF. A. BACHMANN, 1327 North Eighteenth Street.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

THE RECTOR.

Office of Accounting Warden, 224 South Third Street.

Residence, 2105 Spring Garden Street.

SEXTON.

JAMES THOMAS, 1822 Olive Street.

Special Collections, designated and fixed by the Vestry, to be taken up in the Church throughout the ensuing year:

MORNING COLLECTIONS.

Sunday, May 21st.—Evangelical Education Society.
Sunday, June 18th.—Sunday School.
Sunday, Sept. 17th.—Episcopal and Convention Fund.
Sunday, Oct. 15th.—Sunday School.
Thanksgiving Day. —Episcopal Hospital.
Christmas Day. —Fund for Disabled Clergymen.
Sunday, Jan. 21, '83.—Foreign Missions.
Sunday, Feb. 18, '83.—Domestic Missions.
Good Friday, '83.—For Jews and Deaf-Mutes.
Easter Sunday, '83.—Sinking Fund.

The Rector may change the time for taking up any of the above special collections, and others may be ordered by the Vestry. ALL OTHER COLLECTIONS, except the Offertory at Holy Communion, will be for the

SINKING FUND

for extinguishment of the CHURCH DEBT.

Holy Communion first Sunday Morning of the month at 10.30.

Infant Baptism first Sunday afternoon of the month at 4 o'clock. Notice to be previously given the Rector.

In case of funerals, families will please consult the Rector before designating an hour for the services. It is earnestly requested that funerals be not appointed for the Lord's Day.

Pew-holders or worshippers changing their residence will please give the Accounting Warden or Sexton their new address.

Church of St. Matthias.

To the Congregation of Church of St. Matthias.

With mingled feelings of pleasure and gratitude the Parochial Committee lay before you their Annual Report.

IMPROVEMENTS.

LAST year's report opened with a statement as to the improvements made in beautifying our Church Building. This year our attention is called, first of all, to a similar work accomplished, in the frescoing of our Chapel and the erection and furnishing of other rooms for parish work. The old narrow and contracted gallery, used for the Infant School, was taken down, and instead, another large, airy and cheerful one reared, which is capable of seating nearly 300 people. Sub-divided by a glass partition, it provides accommodations for two of our larger Bible Classes, while it has afforded excellent facilities for informal religious services, and meetings of ladies and others for parish work during Lent, and at other times; the two rooms being readily thrown into one.

The vacant space between the Church and Chapel has been completely occupied by the erection, on one side, of a room which answers the double purpose of Rector's study and Young Men's Bible Class, while, on the other side, the former vestry room, has been enlarged and improved, and has been used as a Young Ladies' Bible Class, capable of seating 75 persons. Over this has been reared a room for the use of the Infant School, which, besides possessing proper conveniences for the comfort of the little ones, has, like all the other rooms, been neatly and cheerfully frescoed. A separate entrance is afforded the little children from Wallace

street, and, being removed from the rest of the School, they can sing or recite without in any way disturbing the other classes.

The old, dark and unattractive Robing Room has given way to another, beautiful and spacious, which is also used on Sunday afternoons for Bible Class purposes. So complete are the arrangements that all the Bible Classes and Main School can unite in the opening and closing exercises. A handsome Gothic porch of cut stone has been erected at the front entrance, leaving the whole area within the walls free from obstruction of passageway, and so available for purposes of parish work or Church services. Altogether, we have now a Chapel and Parish buildings equalled by few, if any, in the Diocese, and surpassed by none. The expense of the Improvements was much greater than at first calculated, amounting to about $6000. The increase was partly owing to the cost of repairs found necessary to be made on the roof and other parts of the Chapel, as the improvements progressed. All the work, however, we are glad to say, has been paid for, and the whole of our Church property has been placed in such excellent condition by the improvements of the past two years, that comparatively little need be spent upon it for some time to come. The buildings were reopened on Wednesday evening, November 9th, with appropriate services, and were afterwards thrown open for inspection to the congregation. The Bishop of the Diocese was present, and made an address warmly commending the work accomplished.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

THIS department of our work was interfered with a good deal during the year, by the improvements. Closing in the middle of June, we were not able to resume the use of the Chapel until the beginning of November. The school was convened in the Church early in September; but the accommodations being imperfect, it was found somewhat

difficult to carry on the work. We have been able to keep our numbers about the same as last year, though an earlier opening would doubtless have tended to increase them materially.

The present statistics are:—

Main School,	351
Infant "	177
Bible Classes,	175
Total,	703

making with the 200 in the Sewing School about 900 under instruction.

The contributions of the schools have, however, been greater than ever before, amounting to $938.33, the Lenten offerings reaching the large sum of $489.43.

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Sunday Schools was held on Easter evening, and was an immense success as to numbers and enthusiasm; every foot of available space in the Church being occupied by the throng that packed it. It was a source of deep regret to us that so many of our friends were turned away, unable to effect an entrance. The singing, which included two original hymns written for the occasion, was all that could be desired; the organ on the occasion being accompanied by cornet and bells. The main design, which stood on the chancel platform, was 16 feet high and was beautiful and appropriate. The base formed the monogram of the Church, which was filled with flowers, as each class brought up its offerings, and supported a circle bearing on it in silvered letters the names of the Rectors who have officiated during the last quarter of a century in the Chapel or Church—Chase, Thomas, Munroe, Edwards. This sustained crosses of white rosebuds and gas jets, the whole being surmounted by a crown of jets. Rev. Dr. Newton gave a very interesting address on the Lessons of the Resurrection, and the Rector followed with a brief statement as to the history of the parish. He said, "When St. Matthias called its first clergyman the vestry said there are 500 first-class houses

in the neighborhood. Now they are reckoned by thousands. Episcopal Churches were then far away; now they are all around. Services began in a room at Nineteenth and North streets, February 1, 1857. The receipts of the Church the first year were $500.82; this year they will be over $19,000. The maintenance of the Sunday School the first year was $26.18; this year $6000 have been given to build and improve a Sunday School building. The rental of settees then yielded $173; this year the amount for pew-rents was $9500. In the summer of 1858 the congregation went to worship in the Spring Garden Institute. These quarters were given up in February, 1859. Rev. R. G. Chase became Rector in the following July. The present Chapel was opened as a Church on December 18, 1859, and the present new Church building was opened on March 21, 1873, Rev. R. N. Thomas being Rector at that time."

Mrs. Anna G. Volkmar, who had served faithfully for twenty years as Treasurer of the Mite Society, and Superintendent of the Infant School nearly as long, was presented with an elegant silver tea service. The occasion was full of deep interest to all present.

THE SEWING SCHOOL

Resumed its sessions on Saturday, November 12th, closing April 15th, with 34 teachers and 187 scholars present. Garments and articles of work completed, 329, besides a quantity of patch-work. Acknowledgments with grateful thanks were received from the Infants' Home for 10 small quilts donated by the school last year. The closing exercises of the school in April were of their usual bright and joyous character. The texts learned were recited with great readiness and correctness, while the pieces spoken or sung by the little ones were well rendered. This festival is always of special interest from its social character, the ladies of the Parish joining in it with hearty good will, and sharing in its festivities. Besides donations of cakes, $36.85 was re-

ceived from the teachers and others for the festival, while for general expenses $86.50 was contributed.

BENEFICIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

This is a new feature in our work. Collections for the *Fuel Saving Society* were first made on May 28th, and continued weekly until October 27th. There were 20 subscribers who placed in the hands of the receiver in small payments of one dollar or less, the sum of $180. Those thus subscribing were enabled to purchase over 34 tons of coal at reduced rates and on easy terms. When this adjunct to our work becomes better known, it will doubtless be increasingly availed of by many, who by a little economy in summer, can easily provide for their winter's fuel.

The St. Matthias' Yearly Beneficial Association which was organized three months ago with 12 members, now numbers 60 men. By the payment of 50 cents a month, any member in good standing is entitled when sick or disabled to $3 per week; in event of death $25 are allowed for funeral expenses. This Association differs from, and is superior to most beneficial societies, in that benefits to those worthy, commence as soon as elected and approved; and all funds in the treasury at the end of the year are divided proportionately among all the members.

It is a mutual coöperative society in the best sense of the term, where men are aided, when help is needed, without being made to feel that they are sacrificing their manhood. Candidates for membership must be of good moral character and in good health. The stated meetings are held on the first Tuesday evening of every month, at 8 o'clock, in the Men's Bible Class room. The provision for a yearly dissolution is an admirable feature, making membership voluntary rather than compulsory. Any one can retire from it at the end of a year.

SEWING SOCIETIES.

Two of these were at work during the Lenten season. The Ladies' Sewing Society sent a box, valued at $225, to a faithful and devoted Missionary working in Nebraska. He writes:

"It is with a deep sense of gratitude I acknowledge the receipt of the Missionary Box sent us by the ladies of St. Matthias' Church. It has arrived safely, and all the articles received as per the list you enclosed.

"It is indeed a splendid box of clothing. Every article suits, and is what we required.

"It came just before breakfast, and when I asked which should receive the *first* attention, the "*box*" was at once voted for. On displaying its contents surprise after surprise awaited us, until the climax was reached when the children received their *peculiar* gifts. F—— at once appropriated his whistle, ball, penknife, drawing slate, and what he valued, especially, his pencil box to take to school.

"K—— valued her gifts no less, and when they found the money they could hardly believe all was for them. The ladies would be pleased to see the genuine pleasure which their gifts gave.

"For ourselves, I have only to say that words fail us, to say how truly and deeply thankful we are to the ladies who so kindly interested themselves, and contributed such a valuable supply of clothing, &c. May God bless them. We have indeed a good supply of excellent and needful clothing, and every article is most satisfactory."

The Young Ladies' Bible Class "A" prepared a box, including some donations from another Bible Class, which was sent to the children of a Missionary in Virginia. It was valued at $100. His wife in acknowledging it says:

"The box came safe, was in the yard before we knew of its coming, such a pleasant surprise. I wish I could express my sincere gratitude, every thing fits as if you had had the children to measure, and it will save a 'tired mother,' oh, so many

stitches. I wish you could have seen the children's delight when they found the pocket-books, and more money than they ever owned before. Many thanks for my Easter card. May the good Lord reward all the kind hearts that have been working for me during Lent."

It has been suggested, and the thought is worthy of consideration by the ladies of the parish, that it would be better another season to begin work on these boxes in the fall, sending them to those who need them rather as Christmas gifts, than Easter surprises.

LIBRARIES.

THE suggestion made in our last report that an effort should be made to replenish our Parish Library has been acted upon. The proceeds of a Young People's Entertainment last fall were applied to this purpose, 156 *new* books being thus obtained, which were carefully selected. There are now 450 volumes in this library.

The Sunday Schools and Bible Classes in addition to their liberal offerings during Lent for Mexico and Missionary purposes, contributed at the same time upwards of $200 to procure new books for the Sunday School Library, a work which will be attended to during the summer months. Both our Libraries will thus be in improved condition when the schools re-open in the fall and, under their present efficient management, will doubtiess accomplish much good. There will then be upwards of 1000 books in this Library.

FINANCES.

WE congratulate the congregation upon the very gratifying statement made by the Accounting Warden in his last annual report to the Vestry. Every item of income by

comparison with the preceding year, he says, has been increased, besides a large sum being collected for the Chapel improvements. Year before last our total receipts amounted to $12,853.10, last year to $16,328.44. This year they reach the still larger sum of $19,388.75. The debt on the Church building has been reduced to $8950. The bonds representing this indebtedness mature May 1, 1883, and every reasonable effort should be made by our people, looking to the liquidation of this obligation during the current year. Receipts from pew-rents have been $9234.93, and there is still outstanding and presumably collectible, $547.64.

Appended we give the usual condensed statement:

RECEIPTS.

Pew-Rents collected,	$9,234 93
Communion Offertory,	384 67
Collections in Church,	2,918 94
Support of Sunday Schools,	295 03
Ladies' Mite Society,	200 84
Chapel Improvement Fund,	5,173 26
Sunday School Offerings,	938 58
Miscellaneous,	242 50
	$19,388 75

EXPENSES AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

Current Expenses of the Church,	$7,275 35
Interest and Ground Rent,	1,809 48
Improvements,	6,130 99
Payment of Debts,	1,512 91
Support of Sunday Schools,	295 03
Episcopal and Convention Fund,	150 00
American Church Missionary Society,	124 74
Evangelical Educational Society,	87 48
Diocesan Missions,	79 39
Episcopal Hospital,	301 76
Foreign Missions,	117 86
Disabled Clergymen	62 12
Mission to the Jews,	30 25
" " Deaf-Mutes,	30 24
Miscellaneous,	242 50
Amount carried forward,	$18,250 10

Amount brought forward,		$18,250 10
Sunday School Contributions:		
T. C. Warren Scholarship, Jaffa,	25 00	
Towards Frescoing Chapel Chancel,	53 83	
Support of Sewing School,	57 51	
City Missions,	107 68	
Indians,	71 49	
St. Ambrose's Church,	17 57	
Church of Crucifixion,	17 57	
Church Work in Mexico,	154 03	
Infant School for Orphanage Mexico,	60 00	
Bible Class "A" for Missionary Box,	71 00	
For Sunday School Library,	204 40	
Church Home,	30 00	
Educational Home,	30 00	
McAll Mission,	13 59	
St. Barnabas', Haddington,	11 89	
Mission, Black Ridge, Central Penna.,	12 77	
		938 33
		$19,188 43

OFFICIAL ACTS.

Baptisms,	26
Confirmed,	28
Marriages,	21
Funerals,	24

GENERAL NOTES.

COTTAGE LECTURES were conducted during the winter by the Assistant Minister and one of the gentleman teachers, the average attendance being 27.

During Lent informal services of Prayer were held in the Bible Class Rooms on Sunday mornings, preceding the regular service in the Church; they were largely attended; the spacious rooms being sometimes over full, and were a means of great good.

Our week-day services have been better attended than ever before, our new Chapel arrangements no doubt contributing somewhat to this end. The Rector delivered a course of lectures on the Creed at these services. On Holy Thursday evening a larger number of communicants joined

in the Communion than were present at any previous similar service.

At Thanksgiving time $300 was again contributed to maintain the St. Matthias' Free Bed in the Episcopal Hospital. The bed has been in constant use all year by deserving sufferers.

The Strawberry Festival of last summer was arranged and managed by the young ladies of the Parish, and was one of the most successful ever held.

The Mite Society of the Parish has continued its good work in a quiet way during the past year, the money collected having been appropriated to the Improvement Fund. We are glad to hear that the ladies are thinking of applying the contributions of this year to the Sinking Fund for the redemption of the Church bonds.

Several entertainments were given during the winter under the auspices of the Young People's Association, some being of a musical character, others being reminiscences of travels in Europe and the Holy Land by different members of the congregation.

Stereopticon exhibitions of a very interesting character were given the schools about Christmas and Easter. These also were provided gratuitously by members of the Parish and were much enjoyed by all present.

The Rector officiated twice during the year in our Church before the First Regiment and the Veteran Corps of the same, of which body he is Chaplain. The first occasion was on Monday afternoon, September 26th, when the funeral services of President Garfield were being held in Cleveland. The services were of a very solemn and impressive nature. The Rector made an address from 2 Samuel iii, 38. The example thus set by this command was followed by the other regiments in the city. The second occasion was on Sunday afternoon, February 26th, when the annual sermon was delivered by the Chaplain on "True Greatness."

In closing our report, we feel that as a congregation we have great cause for thankfulness to our Heavenly Father

for His blessing on our work. The machinery of the Parish moves without friction or disturbance, and the cheerfulness with which the large sum needed for our improvements was given, has been specially gratifying to all concerned. Let us thank God for the temporal blessings thus vouchsafed, and seek also a richer, spiritual life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT A. EDWARDS,
Rector.

HENRY S. GODSHALL,
THOMAS R. GILL,
WILLIAM P. TROTH,
CHARLES W. FUNK,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS,
Parochial Committee.

ADDITIONAL PEW-HOLDERS DURING THE YEAR.

Mrs. Mary Watts	300 N. 20th street.
William Uhler	2005 Arch street.
H. B. Houston	558 N. 18th street.
W. V. Lippincott	1607 Green street.
E. G. Crippen	2204 N. 11th street.
C. H. Flaig	1534 N. 19th street.
Miss J. Kerr	2029 Mount Vernon street.
J. Renton White	2227 Mount Vernon street.
Rev. T. L. Franklin, D.D	2316 Parish street.
Miss Mary D. Forepaugh	1800 Green street.
H. C. Ellis	607 N. 17th street.
Henry C. Tuller	1814 Mount Vernon street.
E. P. Holman	1724 Green street.
W. H. Lacy	1900 Green street.
Mrs. Anna H. Anstice	1838 Mount Vernon street.
T. H. Chase	2055 Brandywine street.
R. B. G. Gardiner	2106 Green street.
Miss E. Detwiler	2013 Wallace street.
Mrs. George Fahnestock	636 N. 18th street.
Miss M. L. Kirk	1518 N. 18th street.
W. G. Matthews	2022 Mount Vernon street.
Mrs. Eliza Moody	715 N. 19th street.
Miss Archambault	523 N. 19th street.
Miss Mattie C. Cannon	1417 N. 18th street.
Miss Rebecca Potts	1612 Arch street.
Mrs. Catharine Cook	1626 Becket street.
Mrs. Anna Bechtel	1628 Becket street.
Mrs. K. Phenegar	2330 Virginia street.
Mrs. Margaret Powell	2334 Virginia street.
Frank B. Garsed	1523 N. 19th street.
William Howell	1518 Mount Vernon street.
T. B. Butcher	1602 Mount Vernon street.
Miss Rebecca Newman	2214 Hare street.
Miss Sarah Nelson	1538 Callowhill street.
Mrs. Elizabeth McCauley	2015 Parrish street.
Miss Sarah Thornley	2326 Meredith street.
Jos. Allen, Jr	1127 Wallace street.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Parochial Committee

OF THE

Church of St. Matthias

PHILADELPHIA.

For the year ending May 1st, 1883.

PHILADELPHIA:
McCALLA & STAVELY, PRS., 237–9 DOCK STREET.
1883.

OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS.

RECTOR.

REV. ROBERT A. EDWARDS, No. 631 North Nineteenth Street.

VESTRYMEN.

DAVID E. STOUT, *Rector's Warden.*
JAMES HAY,
JOSEPH R. DICKINSON,
CHARLES W. FUNK,
MOSES PAXSON,
DAVID W. CHAMBERS,
HENRY S. GODSHALL, *Accounting Warden.*
THOMAS R. GILL,
CHAS. B. BARRETT,
WILLIAM S. HARVEY,
WILLIAM F. MOODY,
R. WILLIAMS, JR., *Secretary.*

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee on Finance.

JAMES HAY, THOMAS R. GILL,
CHARLES W. FUNK.

Committee on Sunday School.

WILLIAM S. HARVEY, DAVID W. CHAMBERS,
MOSES PAXSON.

Committee on Music.

JOSEPH R. DICKINSON; WILLIAM F. MOODY,
HENRY S. GODSHALL.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

CHAS. B. BARRETT, DAVID E. STOUT,
R. WILLIAMS, JR.

ORGANIST.

PROF. A. BACHMANN, 1327 North Eighteenth Street.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

THE RECTOR.

Office of Accounting Warden, 224 South Third Street.

Residence, 2105 Spring Garden Street.

SEXTON.

JAMES THOMAS, 1822 Olive Street.

Special Collections, designated and fixed by the Vestry, to be taken up in the Church throughout the ensuing year:

MORNING COLLECTIONS.

Sunday, May 20th.—Evangelical Education Society.
Sunday, June 17th.—Episcopal and Convention Fund.
Sunday, Sept. 16th.—City Missions.
Sunday, Oct. 21st.—Sunday School.
Thanksgiving Day. —Episcopal Hospital.
Christmas Day. —Fund for Disabled Clergymen.
Sunday, Jan. 20, '84.—Foreign Missions.
Sunday, Feb. 17, '84.—American Church Missionary Society.
Good Friday, '84.—For Jews and Deaf-Mutes.
Easter Sunday, '84.—To be designated.

The Rector may change the time for taking up any of the above special collections, and others may be ordered by the Vestry. ALL OTHER COLLECTIONS, except the Offertory at Holy Communion, will be for the

SINKING FUND

for extinguishment of the CHURCH DEBT.

Holy Communion first Sunday morning of the month at 10.30.

Infant Baptism last Sunday afternoon of the month at 4 o'clock. Notice to be previously given the Rector.

In case of funerals, families will please consult the Rector before designating an hour for the services. It is earnestly requested that funerals be not appointed for the Lord's Day.

Pew-holders or worshipers changing their residence will please give the Accounting Warden or Sexton their new address.

CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS.

THE Parochial Committee of the Vestry herewith present to the Congregation a brief statement of the condition and work of the Parish for the year past. They invite from each member of the Church a careful reading, believing that much will be found to awaken gratitude to God for His continued blessing, as well as to evoke mutual felicitations over results attained.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

OUR Sunday School has been carried on with faithfulness and zeal, the teachers attending with greater promptness and regularity, and the children continuing to be interested in works of Christian benevolence. One pleasant feature is, that nearly every family connected with the Parish is represented in the Sunday School, the large mass of them being children of our own families. And yet this has its drawbacks, for as most of our people leave the city during the summer, it has been found impracticable to keep the work going on actively during the heated term. Our school year is therefore little more than nine months long. Too many of our people are also inclined to let the school usurp the place of the Church. We would that more of our children were present at the Church services, particularly on Sunday mornings. The somewhat popular notion that children get too much of Church is fallacious. Children are not permitted to stay away from week-day school, lest they may get too

much of it, and so learn to hate all things connected with education.

A combined festival service for all the schools was held on the Wednesday evening after Christmas, the tree being especially prepared for the Infant School, and looking very beautiful to the wondering eyes of the little ones, as a powerful reflector in the gallery poured upon its fruitage of dolls, drums, cornucopias, etc., a flood of varicolored rays. Gifts were also provided for the other schools.

Our Easter Anniversary was both joyous and successful. The main design with its appropriate inscription in red flower letters "He is Risen" looked well as it stood surrounded by a tropical wealth of shrubs, plants and flowers. The object of greater interest, perhaps, was the full-rigged ship, 16 x 13 feet, which stood on the platform and which was supposed to represent the ship that was to bear the children's offerings to Mexico, part of their Lenten gifts being sent to aid the work of our Church in that benighted land. It certainly was a thing of beauty as the clear afternoon sun shed upon its white sails a stream of golden light. Each sail bore the name of some Christian principle or virtue, and the lessons thus taught were emphasized in a brief address by the Rector.

The inclement weather of the past winter, which gave us a succession of stormy Sundays through nearly all of January and February, had a very trying effect upon Sunday School work, so many children being prevented from attending. This accounts for the fact that the offerings are about sixty dollars less than last year. We append a list of the School's contributions for the past eight years:

1875	$534 91	1879	$613 47
1876	470 45	1880	775 10
1877	443 72	1881	938 33
1878	560 03	1882	872 22

The present Rector took charge of the school in 1879, as Superintendent.

Appropriations have been made as follows during the past year:

Educational Home,	$ 20 00
Church Home,	20 00
Memorial Church, Gettysburg,	11 77
Children's Country Week,	12 32
Parish Library,	18 64
Sunday School Library,	69 20
Parish Sewing School,	90 00
City Mission,	143 53
Education of Indian Student,	50 00
Home for the Homeless,	14 30
Church Debt (on Building),	214 65
Church Work in Mexico,	134 18
Church of St. Ambrose,	63 62
	$862 21

For support of the schools, there has been received as follows:

June—Collection in Church,	$ 57 43
Oct.— " "	107 79
Nov.—Musical and Literary Entertainment,	122 27
Total,	$287 49

The statistics of the school are as follows:

Teachers and Officers,	51
Infant School,	188
Bible Classes,	90
Main School,	321
Total,	650

We cannot speak too highly of the admirable method in which the weekly offerings of the schools are made and the accounts kept, a system for which we are indebted to the present Treasurer. A like remark may be made of the manner in which the Libraries are conducted, scarcely a book having been lost all year. During the summer the Rector and Librarian went through the Sunday School library, examining each book and rejecting between thirty

and forty which they thought unsuitable for use. All books that were injured were rebound, and enough new ones were added to fill every slip in the shelves that were recently put up. There are now 1275 volumes in this collection, making with the 450 in the Parish Library a total of 1725 volumes.

ST. MATTHIAS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION.

THIS organization was founded a little more than a year ago, and now numbers about seventy-five members. The total amount paid in the first year was $429.65. Amount paid out—Funeral expenses to the family of one member, $53.50; benefits to sick members, $81.20; total expenses of organization, etc., for the year, $22.65; leaving a balance to be divided at the end of the first year among the members of $272.30, which was done *pro rata*. Those who paid for the whole year $7.00, received back $4.87. There is no cheaper method of insurance than this; the principle on which the Association is operated is purely mutual. Men are *helped* in event of sickness or death, and the spirit and tone of such a brotherhood does not lessen, but increases a man's self-respect. It treats him as a friend, not a vassal. Any man of good character and sound health is eligible to membership. When the benefits of the system are more widely known, the membership will be largely increased. Meetings are held to transact business on the first Tuesday evening of the month at 8 o'clock, in the Men's Bible Class Room, when those desirous of becoming members can make application.

SEWING SCHOOL

WAS re-opened on the first Saturday of November, with 17 teachers and 85 scholars, and continued to grow weekly, until it closed, April 7th, with 32 teachers and 235 scholars,

this being the largest attendance we have ever had. The children entered into the work quite heartily, their busy fingers completing, during the winter, 393 garments, besides finishing a large quantity of patch-work, which has been made into a quilt to be given some deserving charity. The sewing was unusually good; when a final examination of the work was made it was found that nearly every class had some little girl deserving a prize, but the number was necessarily limited to five.

At the closing exercises the children were given their usual treat of ice cream, cake and oranges; quite a large number of the congregation were present to hear them recite their well-learned texts, sing their hymns, and deliver their short recitations. More interest has been taken in the school by the congregation this past winter than ever before, more ladies of the Parish offering their services, and the Sunday Schools adopting it as an object of their care.

The amount of money received and expended for carrying on the work, was $94.91. Contributions received from the teachers for the festival, $32.68.

MOTHERS' MEETINGS.

This is a new feature of our Church work, having been started for the first time in November last. The object is to aid respectable women of moderate circumstances in purchasing material for the clothing of themselves or families at nearly wholesale prices, small payments being made weekly upon the goods obtained. The meetings were held weekly on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30—the first hour being given partly to sales and sewing; the rest being occupied by all in sewing, while the lady in charge read and explained some passages of Scripture, afterwards adding a course of reading in some interesting work—the whole concluding with singing and prayer. In this way the "Mothers"

spent many happy hours together, forgetting for a time the cares and worries of life, and carrying with them to their homes something of the light and cheer of their meetings. The membership increased from thirteen to thirty-three. The gatherings closed in March, when all enjoyed a pleasant entertainment, which had been provided by some friends of the undertaking.

In this connection it may be added that the Fuel Saving Society, a kindred organization, had, during the summer, twenty-one depositors, who saved, in small sums, $198.13, for which they received in return thirty-eight tons of coal.

THE LADIES' SEWING SOCIETY

Met this year, and did its work in the fall instead of during Lent, as in other years. As a consequence they gladdened the heart of the Missionary at a time when the things given were much needed. The box was sent this year as a Christmas present to a faithful Minister in Virginia. His wife, in acknowledging receipt of the box, says, in a letter to the lady President: "I only wish you could have seen us as we opened the box to-day; I believe you would have been repaid for your trouble and kindness. I never had in my life such a pleasant surprise. I had no idea we were to receive so valuable a box; it seems you sent every thing we really needed. I wish you could see my dear little boy in one of his new dresses; they fit him perfectly, and will be such a comfort to him during this cold weather. It was such a help to have so many things made up; I have so much sewing to do, and I am not strong. My husband was so much pleased with his things, and will write himself to thank you. It would take too long to mention how much I was pleased with everything sent to me; but I must tell you that our little boy was perfectly charmed with his presents,

he holds the little horse all the time, and his books are looked over a hundred times a day. We shall remember you all in the future with a deal of affection. I only wish I could express to you just how much pleasure the box has given us all. We should have had to go without so many things which we needed—but which you have so kindly sent. Give my love and sincere thanks to the ladies," etc. The box was valued at $160.

FINANCES.

The Annual Report of the Accounting Warden shows the Finances of the Church to be in a very satisfactory condition.

We append a condensed statement of the income and disbursements for the year ending April 30, 1883, which exhibits continued prosperity, and receipts sufficient to meet all the current expenses, with a reserve for the extinguishment of the Church debt.

A year ago the Ladies of the Parish constituting the "Mite Society" resolved that their collections for the current year should be appropriated to the Sinking Fund. This organization for Church work has been in existence ever since the Parish was formed, and has yearly collected funds for some specific object, named by them at the beginning of each year. They have, under the above resolution, collected this year $559.75, chiefly in small sums, payable by the subscribers either monthly or quarterly as may best suit them.

A strawberry festival in the early spring produced a net profit of $284.44, and a supper given in the Chapel during the winter gave us the additional amount of $506.25, thus making a total of $1350.44 placed in the Sinking Fund during the year by the exertion of the Ladies alone.

The ordinary Sunday collections which are also for the Sinking Fund, amounted to $1002.44, and that of Easter last to $2520.88.

Of the Easter offering $214.65 was given by the Sunday School, and $40 by the St. Matthias' Beneficial Association.

With the cash on hand we are prepared to meet all outstanding Church bonds excepting $4000 held by three individuals, who have agreed to carry them until the Church is in condition to redeem them. With but little effort this small obligation can be met at any time. There has been a total reduction of the Church debt during the year, of $5374.90.

The ground rent of $11,627.53 is owned by the City of Philadelphia, and, with the $4000 bonds referred to above, constitutes the entire indebtedness of the Church on both lot and buildings.

The estimated value of Church and Chapel including furniture and organ is $135,000, on which there is an insurance of $41,000, of which $30,000 is perpetual.

The income from pew-rents alone has been $9333.95, divided among 213 tenants, and there is still due and presumably collectable $531.48 for the quarter ending 31st March.

It is gratifying to notice the yearly increase of our pew-rents. They were reported for the year preceding as follows:

May, 1879,	$6,446 01
" 1880,	8,259 72
" 1881,	8,461 36
" 1882,	9,234 93
" 1883,	9,333 95

The total receipts from all sources for the year amount to $16,363.79.

Annexed is the condensed statement:

Pew-Rents (collected),	$9,333 95
Communion Offertory,	363 41
Collections in Church,	3,778 61

Support of Sunday Schools,	$287 49
Ladies' Mite Society,	559 75
Sunday School Offerings,	872 22
Interest,	145 44
Strawberry Festival and Supper,	877 74
Miscellaneous,	145 18
Total,	$16,363 79

EXPENSES AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

Current Expenses,	$7,734 35
Interest and Ground Rent,	1,503 16
Payment of Debts,	687 05
Support of Sunday School,	287 49
Episcopal and Convention Fund,	150 00
Evangelical Education Society,	82 05
American Church Missionary Society,	92 28
Episcopal Hospital,	308 74
Foreign Missions,	89 27
Disabled Clergy,	58 01
Mission to Colored People,	29 20
" Deaf-Mutes,	29 20
Bishop Garrett's Work,	58 29
City Mission,	26 75
McAll Mission,	18 50
Sufferers from Western Floods,	55 00
Sunday School Offerings (elsewhere given),	862 21

OFFICIAL ACTS.

Baptisms—Infants, 23; Adults, 17;	40
Confirmed,	41
Marriages,	16
Funerals,	31

Our communicant list numbers about 450.

Dear Parishioners, as you lay aside this Report let it be with a feeling of thankfulness to God, without whose blessing all our efforts would have been in vain. Let it be also with an inquiry. Ask yourselves individually—What am I doing for my Saviour in this Church? If you have been idle or cold, or luke-warm, will you not begin another year of Church work with the solemn determination to do some-

thing for One who has done so much for you? If you are already one of Christ's faithful laborers, then draw comfort and encouragement from the review now laid before you; and seek to spend and be spent for that Blessed Master who emptied Himself of divine glory that He might fill you with the life and bliss of Heaven. Let each reader try to bring some careless one to Christ and His Church.

ROB'T A. EDWARDS,
Rector.

CHARLES B. BARRETT,
JOSEPH R. DICKINSON,
WILLIAM S. HARVEY,
DAVID E. STOUT,
RYNEAR WILLIAMS, JR.,
Committee.

ADDITIONAL PEW-HOLDERS DURING THE YEAR.

Wm. B. Riley.....1907 Mount Vernon street.
Miss Harriet Boyer.....1700 Green street.
James Townsend,.....3202 Chestnut street.
Mrs. Cornar.....1731 Olive street.
Frank Smith.....1619 Becket street.
Mrs. J. L. Cadmus.....1612 Mount Vernon street.
Alexander Harding.....611 N. 17th street.
August Sehman.....610 N. 21st street.
Mrs. Birk.....2434 Green street.
Misses Airey.....2512 Continental ave.
Frank G. Eaton.....1442 N. 17th street.
Miss Rebecca P. Humphreys.....1925 Sharswood street.
Mrs. Lindsay.....1503 Garnet street.
Mrs. W. H. Remsen.....865 N. 20th street.
Mrs. T. Yerkes.....16th street and Girard ave.
Miss Emma Henderson.....2331 Fairmount ave.
Miss Cordelia Myers.....1711 Wallace street.
Samuel Scott.....704 N. 19th street.
Mrs. Sarah Nelson.....1538 Callowhill street.
G. M. Streeter.....2036 Brandywine street.
H. E. Bonschur.....715 Shirley street.
Mrs. Jno. H. Shelmire.....1702 Green street.
Matthew Gill, Jr.....2003 Wallace street.
Mrs. M. H. Woodward.....1606 Wallace street.
Miss H. M. Lewis.....1700 Green street.
E. R. Barnes.....2037 Brandywine street.
Miss P. A. Anderson.....605 N. 22d street.
Mrs. E. D. Wood.....605 N. 22d street.
Robert Torrens.....2110 Callowhill street.